

**A DURABLY HYDROPHILIC, NON-LEACHING COATING FOR
HYDROPHOBIC SUBSTANCES**

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

10 The present invention is directed to a durably hydrophilic, non-leaching coating. A carbohydrate-salt mixture is formed by at least partially dissolving a water insoluble carbohydrate in an aqueous salt solution to form a carbohydrate-salt complex. The carbohydrate-salt mixture is applied to a substrate, and the substrate is rinsed with a solvent to form a coating. The present invention is further directed to a substrate coated with the coating of the present invention and absorbent structures comprising the coated substrate.

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